

## Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 SSC-01

CPR-02 IO-13 OMB-01 RSR-01 /095 W

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R 230820Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6207

INFO CINCPAC CAMP H M SMITH HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR JA

SUBJECT: BIODATA ON MASUO TAKASHIMA, NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL  
MOFA ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAU

REF: TOKYO 10209

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, ON AUG 7, GOJ ANNOUNCED APPOINTMENT  
OF MASUO TAKASHIMA AS NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MOFA ASIAN  
AFFAIRS BUREAU. TAKASHIMA HAD SERVED AS DIRECTOR  
GENERAL OF TREATIES BUREAU SINCE JAN 1972.

2. BORN OCT 6, 1919, TAKASHIMA GRADUATED TOKYO UNIVERSITY  
LAW FACULTY IN 1941 AND ENTERED MOFA SAME YEAR. IN 1942 ENTERED  
ARMY AND SERVED AS PAYMASTER LT DURING WAR. RETURNING TO  
MOFA AFTER WAR, HE OCCUPIED SERIES OF POSITIONS WHICH KEPT HIM  
IN JAPAN UNTIL 1961 WHEN HE RECEIVED FIRST OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT.  
INITIAL DUTIES WERE SUCCESSIVELY IN GENERAL AFFAIRS, POLITICAL,  
LEGISLATIVE, AND TREATIES BUREAUS. FIRST EXECUTIVE TITLE CAME  
IN 1956 WHEN HE BECAME HEAD OF SECOND DIVISION, INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION BUREAU. IN 1958 HE WAS NAMED HEAD, POLITICAL DIVI-  
SION, UN BUREAU. IN 1960, TAKASHIMA SERVED AS ADVISOR FOR JAPANESE  
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DELEGATION TO ILO IN GENEVA.

3. FROM 1961 TO 1963, TAKASHIMA WAS CONSUL IN HONG KONG AND THEN (1963-1966) COUNSELOR TO GOJ INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OFFICE, GENEVA (CONCURRENTLY CONSUL GENERAL GENERAL. DURING THIS PERIOD HE WAS GOJ DELEGATE TO OR DELEGATION ADVISOR FOR VARIETY OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES IN GENEVA INCLUDING GATT, WHO, ILO AND UNESCO. IN 1966 HE RETURNED TO TOKYO, FIRST AS COUNSELOR IN EUROPE AND ASIA BUREAU AND SOON AFTER, AS COUNSELOR IN TREATIES BUREAU. AFTER BRIEF ASSIGNMENT IN CABINET SECRETARIAT IN EARLY 1970, HE WAS POSTED TO SYDNEY AS CONSUL GENERAL (1970-1972). TAKASHIMA ASSUMED DUTIES AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TREATIES BUREAU IN JAN 1972.

4. TAKASHIMA AND WIFE, MOTOKO, HAVE ONE SON, TATSUYA, WHO IS STUDENT AT WASEDA UNIVERSITY. NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL'S HOBBIES REPORTEDLY INCLUDE MUSIC AND PAINTING.

5. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, TAKASHIMA REPUTED TO BE ESPECIALLY ABLE MAN. HIS ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES AS HEAD OF ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAU SHOULD PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED STRENGTHENING OF TOP OF THAT BUREAU AND RESTORE IT TO TRADITIONAL PREEMINENCE WITHIN MOFA.  
SHOESMITH

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